Artfully Crafted?

Darkly humorous, or artfully crafted to ensnare as a fly-fisher may handcraft a fly to float on the surface of a stream, the following public comment, recently found floating in cyberspace, is nevertheless interesting.

Egnatius Severin
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<begin quotation>
David Myatt is a British thinker, philosopher, and translator whose life reflects a profound and complex journey of personal transformation. Born in 1950, Myatt has traversed a path unlike any other — one marked by radical ideological shifts, intense introspection, and ultimately, a deep search for meaning, virtue, and the sacred. What makes Myatt stand out is not merely the extremity of his early affiliations, but rather the rare courage he displayed in abandoning them, and in articulating his later views with humility and philosophical depth.

In a world where few public figures sincerely confront their pasts, Myatt took the extraordinary step of publicly renouncing extremism — both the far-right nationalism and radical Islamism he once espoused — and turning toward empathy, compassion, and inner reflection. His later work, especially the “Path of Pathei-Mathos”, represents a deeply ethical and spiritual worldview. It encourages individuals to learn from suffering (pathei-mathos), to live honorably, and to cultivate empathy for all beings — a sharp and sincere departure from his earlier ideologies.

This transformation is not just personal, but also intellectual, as shown by his insightful translations of classical Greek texts, including Heraclitus and parts of the Iliad. These works reflect his growing admiration for classical virtue, timeless wisdom, and the numinous — a sense of the sacred and transcendent found in everyday life. Far from remaining fixed in one identity, Myatt's life has become a living testament to change, redemption, and the human capacity for philosophical evolution.

Rather than being bound by his past, he chose to rebuild his beliefs from the ground up, grounded in experience, self-awareness, and a profound desire to leave behind hatred in favor of peace and spiritual integrity. While many debate the authenticity of his transformation, those who engage deeply with his later writings often find a sincere voice grappling with guilt, responsibility, and the meaning of honor in a fallen world. He serves as a rare example of someone who not only questioned everything he once stood for, but also offered a new, gentler path forward — one based on inner nobility, personal responsibility, and the quiet strength of compassion. In the end, David Myatt can be seen not merely as a controversial historical figure, but as a philosopher of metamorphosis — someone who exemplifies the human potential to change, to grow, and to seek the good."
<end quotation>

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